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The University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

University Communications
Missoula, MT 59812
(406) 243-2522

Dec. 15, 1995

MISSOULA PLANS WELCOME HOME CELEBRATION FOR GRIZZLIES

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana and the local community will team up Saturday night to welcome home the Grizzlies--win or lose.

The team will arrive on the tarmac of the U.S. Forest Service's Smokejumper Center just west of Johnson Bell Field. Grizzly fans are invited to attend the celebration. Since on-site parking is almost non-existent, free shuttle bus service will be provided from a number of Missoula locations.

The exact time of arrival is unknown, but officials estimate the charter plane carrying the Grizzly football team home from the national championship game will land in Missoula sometime between 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

"This event is a great opportunity for the community to join with the University in celebrating the Grizzlies' tremendous achievements this year," said Annie Pontrelli, UM's Community Relations and Outreach coordinator.

Tune into your favorite radio or television station or call UM's information hot line after 3 p.m. Saturday for an approximate arrival time. The information telephone number is 243-7014, easy to remember since it's the score of the last playoff game. Frequent updates on the team's journey home will be announced.

Mountain Line will provide a free shuttle service for the public beginning about 90 minutes

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before the plane arrives. Pick-up points will be in front of UM's Harry Adams Field House, on the Ryman Avenue side of the downtown parking garage, and at the Missoula County Courthouse. All buses are disability accessible.

Beach Transportation will run school-bus shuttles from business parking lots near the airport every 15 minutes beginning two hours before the plane's arrival. The public can park in the lots of Costco, Target and Buttrey's on North Reserve Street and Sammons Trucking, 3665 W. Broadway.

Fans are advised to bring flashlights and dress warmly. No alcoholic beverages are allowed. Parking is prohibited on the sides of Old Highway 10. Law enforcement officers will control traffic and parking on the strip of highway between Reserve Street and the Interstate 90 interchange.

"We need everyone's cooperation to make this a safe, enjoyable event for the whole family," Pontrelli said.

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Contact: University Communications, 243-2522.

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Local
Grizhome.rl